

Woodbridge Urban District Council.

Annual Report OF THE Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1960



C.H. IMRIE,

T.D., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Hon. Surgeon to H.M. the Queen.

Eden Lodge,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk.

November, 1961.

The Chairman and Councillors,
Woodbridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman,
Mrs. Cory and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Annual Report for the year, 1960, dealing with the general health of the population of Woodbridge and with such matters of hygiene and sanitation as may influence the health of the community.

I would like to thank the Council and Officials for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.H. IMRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

C.H. Imrie, T.D., Q.H.S.,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

G. Ogden, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

A. STATISTICS

1. Summary of General Statistics

Area of District in Acres	...	1112
Number of inhabited houses (approx.)	...	2077
Rateable Value of District	... £77,096.	0. 0.
Product of Penny Rate	... £310.	19. 1.

Summary of Vital Statistics1951 to 1960

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
Estimated Population	5413	5448	5432	5510	5540	5590	5620	5680	5950	6190
Birth Rate	15.1 (82)	15.6 (85)	16.75 (91)	18.7 (103)	15.7 (87)	12.7 (71)	16.19 (91)	17.9 (102)	15.4 (92)	16.18 (100)
Still Birth Rate	nil	0.36 (2)	nil	28.3 (3)	11.3 (1)	nil	31.8 (3)	9.8 (1)	10.8 (1)	10.0 (1)
Death Rate	12.4 (67)	11.0 (60)	11.9 (65)	13.25 (73)	12.4 (69)	13.7 (77)	11.2 (66)	10.5 (62)	12.6 (75)	11.9 (74)
Infantile Death Rate	48.7 (4)	11.7 (1)	21.9 (2)	67.96 (7)	11.4 (1)	nil	32.9 (3)	9.8 (1)	10.8 (1)	50.0 (5)

Note: Infantile Death Rate is the rate per 1,000 live births -
the other rates are per 1,000 population.

The Still Birth Rate is the rate per 1,000 live and still
births.

Figures in brackets are the actual numbers.

Analysis of Vital Statistics

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Crude Rate per 1000 population</u>	<u>Adjusted Rate for Comparison</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 population England & Wales</u>
a. <u>Live Births</u>						
Legitimate	43	50	100	16.18	16.01	17.1
Illegitimate	4	3				
b. <u>Still Births</u>						
Legitimate	1	-	1	10.0	-	19.7
Illegitimate	-	-				
c. <u>Deaths all Ages</u>	38	36	74	11.9	10.3	11.5
d. <u>Deaths under 1 year of age</u>	3	2	5	50.0	-	21.7

This rate is expressed per 1000 live births.

Population

Ever since the termination of the war there has been a small annual increase in the population which now, according to the Registrar General's Estimate, stands at 6,190. This estimate is of course liable to revision in the light of the 1961 Census.

Births

During 1960 the number of live births in Woodbridge was 100 which is rather greater than the average over the past 10 years.

Still Births

Only one still birth was recorded during the year. This is the third successive year in which only one still birth has been recorded in the Urban District.

Deaths

Deaths numbered 74 which is slightly higher than the average over the past 10 years but is lower than the previous year's figure. Analysis of the figures appears on Page 6.

Of the 74 deaths 5 were children under 1 year of age but the majority were as might be expected in the older age groups.

The causes of death again follow a similar pattern to the previous years. The largest single group of diseases was that associated with diseases of the heart and circulatory system which occurred in 45 cases (previous year 40). The next group in magnitude was that of malignant disease with 10 cases (previous year 21). Accidental death was recorded in 4 cases, which was the same as in the previous year. It is perhaps worthy of note that this cause of death remains fairly constant at anything up to 5% of all deaths each year. Accidental deaths are very often preventable and are a needless waste of life. The main causes are thoughtlessness and a lack of understanding of the dangers.

Once again there were no deaths due to infectious diseases or in connection with childbirth.

Causes of Death

<u>Code</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1960</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1959</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	1	4	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	2	4	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	4	7	11
18. Coronary disease, angina	12	7	19	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1	3
20. Other heart disease	7	5	12	9
21. Other circulatory disease	2	4	6	7
22. Influenza	-	-	-	2
23. Pneumonia	1	1	2	2
24. Bronchitis	-	1	1	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	2	7	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	2	2	-
34. All other accidents	-	2	2	4
35. Suicide	-	1	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
	<u>38</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>75</u>

Causes of death in infants under 1 year

	Birth to 1 week	1 week - 1 month	1-6 months	6-12 months
Asphyxia			1	
Congenital Heart disease	1			
Accidental Poisoning			1	
Prematurity	1			
Atelectasis	1			

Infectious Diseases

The notifications of Infectious Diseases totalled 161 (previous year 84). The difference is mainly due to whooping cough and measles both of which were more or less confined to the toddlers and younger aged school children. Whooping cough, although not at any time prevalent kept appearing mainly in the second half of the year. Measles on the other hand started in March, reached its peak in April and gradually tailed off towards the end of the year.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis nor was there any food poisoning.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register increased by 4 to 25 during the year. Of the 4 new cases 3 were males and 1 female. The oldest was 40 and the youngest 13 years.

Tuberculosis

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	M	F	M	F	
Number on Register <u>1st January, 1960</u>	11	8	1	1	21
Number of cases notified <u>during the year</u>	3	-	-	1	4
Number restored to <u>Register</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Number added otherwise <u>than by Notification</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases removed <u>from Register</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Number remaining on Register <u>at 31st December, 1960</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>25</u>

Details of Cases added to Register

<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Location of Disease</u>
22	M	Metallurgist	Pulmonary
32	F	Housewife	Non-Pulmonary
40	M	Painter and Decorator	Pulmonary
13	M	Schoolboy	Pulmonary

Housing

During the year the clearance scheme in Castle Street made considerable progress and the replanning and rebuilding of the area has gone on. When this scheme is completed it will provide accommodation of a convenient modern type with all the essential amenities in a situation which has considerable natural attractions.

Further clearance in this general area especially in New Street and Bredfield Street will require to be done as soon as practicable, while both Theatre Street and Seckford Street present similar problems. Many of the houses in these areas are destitute of amenities, are dark, damp and inconvenient and are so situated that they get a minimum of sunlight and have poor ventilation.

Sewage and Refuse Disposal

The general position in Woodbridge has not altered significantly during the year. By the end of 1960 no progress had been made with the sewage disposal scheme but there were signs that the incoming year might be more successful.

The refuse collection and disposal at the Council's Tip has continued to operate and the incineration of combustible materials has helped to reduce the quantity to be dealt with and also to reduce materially any nuisance which might emanate from such a place.

Food

The number of premises in Woodbridge in which food of one kind or another is purveyed to the public is 81 which is the same as in the previous year.

The following gives the type of premises concerned:-

Bakers	-	8	Grocers	-	9
Butchers	-	7	Green Grocers	-	10
Confectioners	-	10	General Stores	-	13
Dairies	-	2	Pork Butchers	-	2
Fish Mongers	-	4	Hotels and Cafes	-	12
Fish & Chip Shops	-	4			

Food Inspections

It should be noted that the Food and Drugs Authority for Woodbridge is the East Suffolk County Council but the condemnation of unfit items is done by the Officers of the Local Authority.

The following items were inspected and condemned during the year:-

27 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Sausages	6 lbs. Meat
3 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Veal and Ham Pie	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Bacon
2 cartons Cream	2 stone Cod
2 pkts. frozen Brussel Sprouts	5 stone Kippers
2 pkts. frozen Peas	1 tin Sweet Corn
2 tins Herrings	6 tins Tomatoes
13 tins Meat	26 tins Tomato Puree
5 tins Milk	11 tins Tomato Paste
38 tins Fruit	1 tin Shrimps
1 tin Orange Juice	1 pkt. Figs
4 tins Salmon	3 pkts. Prunes
5 tins Beans	1 tin Curried Rice
1 tin Peas	7 jars smoked Cod's Roe
6 lbs. Boneless Ham	18 lbs. Cheese
6 lbs. Tongue	4 Pork Pies
6 lbs. Corned Beef	2 tins Soup

Action under Various Acts & Regulations

1960

1. Factories Act, 1937

	<u>On Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Defects</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Factories not employing power	6	3	-	-
Factories employing power	37	30	-	-
	43	33	-	-

Outworkers - Nil on Register

11. National Assistance Act, 1948

No statutory action under Section 47 of this Act was considered necessary during the year.

